Virginia Convention
August 1. 1774

Virginia Gazette.

Pr. George Purdie

OR,

NORFOLK INTELLIGENCER,

Do THOU Great LIBERTY! inſpire our Souls.—And make OUR Lives, in THY Poſſeſſion happy,—Or our Deaths GLORIOUS in THY JUST Defence!

Auguſt, 11th, 1774. (No. 10.)

To the PRINTER of the NORFOLK INTELLIGENCER.

SIR,

THE complexion of the times is growing dark and doubtful, and every man ſhould ſeriouſly conſider what part he ſhould take in the important conteſt. It is not the diſpute of a day, nor of a few individuals, that now engroſſes the thoughts and fires the boſoms of ſo many among us. It is the fate of future empires that lies at ſtake: it is the determination of a conteſt as extenſive for its object and laſting in its conſequence as any perhaps ſince creation began. In a matter of ſuch moment there cannot be too much caution, nor our minds too well informed. I hope therefore I am not viewed in the light of an intruder on the public patience by my humble attempts to remove the objections I have heard within the circle of my acquaintance, and to explain a few particulars which the want of a little recollection may have prevented them from attending to.

If what I have before advanced be true, the obligations we owe to the mother country muſt appear exceedingly leſs than ſome would have us to believe. Intereſt has been the prevailing motive for her conduct towards us; and while ſhe boaſts of protection and defence, we may plume ourſelves on our zeal in her cauſe and ſupport of her power. This however is partly denied by ſome, who inſiſt that altho' the American colonies were both active and zealous in the laſt war, yet they do not contribute their ſhare in time of peace, towards the ſupport of government, but leave the whole burthen upon the people in Britain. If this were true, it can by no means juſtify the conduct of parliament, who ought to have waited at leaſt till we had refuſed the reaſonable requiſitions of the crown, before they had impoſed their arbitrary tribute. It would doubtleſs then have appeared with a much greater ſhew of equity, than to thruſt their unmannerly hands into our pockets and take our money from us without ſo much as aſking for it. It is a mode of treatment we do not even uſe to our ſlaves; but Mr. Rigby* declares it a diſgrace for his Majeſty to ASK their money from his American ſubjects, and looks upon us to be as much the property of Great-Britain as their cattle.

Enquire of the advocates for parliamentary taxation, whether the Americans are not greatly in debt, they will readily tell you, we are, and that ſhould the merchants of Great Britain rigidly demand immediate payment of the general ballance due to them from us, we ſhould be ruined. How then can we be equitably burthened with taxes, when we cannot pay our debts? Shall we be generous before we are juſt? Is not this great ballance we owe ſo much yearly revenue to Britain and a heavy tax upon the colonies; and if it ariſes from the interpoſition of parliamentary authority, may it not with propriety be called a parliamentary tax, and equally efficacious with any revenue act the ingenuity of a Grenville could have deviſed? The only difference that I can diſcover is, that an act for regulating our trade prevents us from acquiring property except under ſuch reſtrictions as are highly advantageous to Great Britain, and an act impoſing taxes for the purpoſes of a revenue, robs us of that property when we have acquired it. For my part I regard them both alike: THIS forbids me to be rich; THAT commands me to be poor. The one is a Scylla, the other a Charybdis, and deſtruction is ſure from both. I never had an idea of power and wiſdom being annexed to ſoil: I never ſhall believe that an Engliſhman in England has a right to reſtrict an Engliſhman in America, as if the ground they ſtood on, gave the one a ſuperior degree of underſtanding to direct, and a better right to enjoy the profits of his own ingenuity than the other. I never could conceive the juſtice, that the lordly Briton ſhould tell the poor American, "you ſhall not traffic here, you will underſell me; you ſhall not purchaſe there, it will hurt my intereſt; this manufacture you ſhall not make, for I make the ſame: you ſhall not buy, except for my advantage; nor ſhall you ſell, but I will ſhare the profits: and yet this is the language of the acts for regulating our trade. My indignation kindles at the unnatural notion, that our forefathers by bravely encountring the dangers, miſeries and fatigues of a howling wilderneſs, ſhould forfeit their birth-right for their courage, and beget children, who ſhall transform this wilderneſs to an Eden, and yet ſhall not poſſeſs the true Engliſh liberty of acquiring, enjoying and diſpoſing of their property at pleaſure; but ſhall be ſubject to the ſelfiſh controul of a luxurious nation, who make us labor for their advantage and want to plunder us of our little earnings. I cannot ſee for my part the propriety that the greater ſhould labor for the leſſer, for immenſely greater will the conſequence of this continent ſoon be than that of the mother country. I cannot conceive the inconvenience that may ariſe to the empire, by fixing the ſeat of wealth and power in America more than in Great-Britain, for they are but ſo many parts of the whole—This right to regulate our trade, however partial it is to our mother country, has been in ſome degree acquieſced in by a few eminent perſons on this ſide of the Atlantic, and I am ſorry to ſay that even ſome of our legiſlative bodies, unwilling to bring new matters into diſpute, ſeem to have recognized the right: a recognition, which without the ſpirit of prophecy I may venture to predict, will in leſs than a hundred years be regarded, only as a proof of the exuberance of our affection and confidence towards the mother country. It will ſoon be thought ridiculous that the repreſentative body of ſix or ſeven millions ſhould preſume to direct and controul the trade of more than a hundred millions. And yet this formidable power of regulating our commerce we ſhould peaceably have ſubmitted to for a long time yet to come, if they had not forced us by their internal taxations to ſcrutinize their right. Heavy as the burthen is we ſcarcely complained, although great ſums of money were annually taken from us by this regulating power. We ſeemed to ſhut our eyes and ſtop our ears to the diſtreſſes of Ireland, where the exerciſe of this deſpotic authority over their trade grinds the faces of the poor and has almoſt depopulated the northern parts of that kingdom. Our affections were ſo bound up in our mother country, that we ſeemed fond of being deceived by her, and altho' an internal, direct tax was ſo open a violation of our rights as to compel us to reluctant oppoſition, yet let the parent ſtate call it an external, indirect or eventual tax or regulation of trade and we patiently ſubmitted, altho' the effects that followed, and the power that enacted, were the ſame in both caſes. A very fruitful ſource of advantage indeed has the exerciſe of this right opened to Great Britain, who has drawn from it ſuch an ample fund of riches to herſelf and thrown ſo diſproportionate a burthen upon us. A little attention to this point will ſet it in a much clearer light.

It is an undeniable truth that the conſumer pays the impoſitions that are laid on any article, and the manufacturer muſt not only be reimburſed the duty he advances to the ſtate, but muſt alſo have a profit for himſelf, or how elſe can he live? The taxes which are paid by the landholder and manufacturer in Great Britain muſt enter into the price of the produce of the land and of the manufactures made of it: And as great part of the manufactures of Great Britain are conſumed by the Americans, a great part of the TAXES of Great Britain muſt alſo be paid by the Americans.

The conſtant importation of ſuperfluities from Great Britain to this country, loads us with debt, drains us of money, and furniſhes the Britiſh manufacturer with our caſh to pay his taxes. All our laws to prevent this expenſive importation are conſtantly refuſed the royal aſſent at home; this refuſal therefore is equivalent to an impoſition of this heavy and ruinous TAX.

We are reſtrained from trading with foreign nations, where we could be ſupplied with many manufactures 10, 20, and even 50 per cent cheaper than we now purchaſe. All this difference, which we are obliged to pay to Great Britain, muſt be a heavy tax upon us.

A great part of our produce we are reſtricted from carrying elſewhere than to Great Britain, when we might ſell it to much more advantage abroad. All this difference muſt alſo be a TAX.

By being confined to purchaſe almoſt every manufacture from Great Britain alone, we encreaſe the demand and that raiſes the price, which would not be the caſe if we were allowed a free trade: This enhanced price is therefore a tax.

By the prohibition of all exportation from theſe colonies to foreign countries, we glut the Britiſh market and ſuffer a loſs a free trade would prevent. This loſs therefore is ſo much TAX upon us.

The great demand for Britiſh goods occaſioned by the reſtrictions on our trade has enriched the nation ſo much as to encourage the impoſition of new duties on their manufactures, which the Americans, who conſume great part of them, are obliged in the end to pay. This additional incumbrance therefore muſt undoubtedly be an additional TAX upon us.

Upon many of the articles we export to Britain the parliament have impoſed duties: This leſſens the profits the planter gets, as part of the price is loſt in the duty, This therefore is ſo much clear TAX upon us.

Many manufactures we are prohibited from making which we might make, and are obliged to take them from Great Britain. The whole price of theſe muſt therefore be a TAX.

The beſt writers on commerce allow that 50 per cent of the firſt coſt of goods in England is artificial, ariſing from Britiſh impoſitions, monopolies, taxes, ill judged laws of trade and other political blunders. Theſe goods the merchant retails here at not leſs than 75 per cent, and allowing 25 to be the par of exchange, the planter muſt pay the enormous artificial price of 100 per cent. But ſuppoſe we fix the artificial coſt in America ſo low as 60 per cent, what an amazing ſum at this moderate computation, muſt be annually drawn from us by theſe bleſſed regulations of our trade. The imports of the colonies from Great Britain ten years ago were allowed to be between three and four millions per ann. and it appears from a memorial of New York, that in 1763 that province alone imported 600,000 pounds ſterling in Britiſh goods. Since that time the population of the colonies has increaſed at leaſt a million and a half, and the acquiſition of Canada and the Florida's has furniſhed Great Britain with a ſtill more extenſive market for her manufactures. Under theſe circumſtances I think we may reaſonably compute the annual imports into America at leaſt at 4,500,000l.
The artificial coſt of 60 per cent upon theſe imports, is a tax upon the colonies at one ſtroke, of 2,700,000l.
The difference and loſs to America, and conſequent gain to Great Britain, by the extreme difficulties and expence their ſelfiſh regulations of trade have laid us under; by their tight reſtrictions on enumerated articles of all kinds from the colonies, by an almoſt entire prohibition of all direct imports from every other country; (except of our fellow men for ſlaves from the coaſt of Africa, who by the humane laws of trade and the tender conſciences of modern chriſtians, are left on the ſame footing with the teeth of dead elephants and the yellow duſt of Gambia,) This difference and loſs to America may be reaſonably charged at the yearly ſum of 700,000l.
So that we actually pay to Great Britain the annual revenue of at leaſt 3,400,000l.
And if to this we add the quitrents, and our internal taxes for the ſupport of colony government and the diſcharge of the heavy debts we contracted laſt war, we ſhall ſwell the annual burthen of this oppreſſed continent to near FOUR MILLIONS of pounds. This was the fund, which Mr. Pitt declared, carried Great Britain ſo triumphantly thro' the war: a fund, which nothing but the rapid encreaſe of cultivation could have enabled us to have borne: a fund drawn from us however, by a very ruinous and unprofitable trade with the mother country, as it is now conducted, and which muſt ſtop whenever the body of lands in the colonies become cultivated. How very idle and ridiculous at that day will be all her chimerical projects to regulate and controul our trade and manufactures? juſt like a drop pretending to govern the ocean! The miniſtry are ſenſible of the approaching period; they wiſh to break us while we are young, to check our ſprightly ſpirits, and laſh us into the timid ſubmiſſion of the tameſt beaſt of burthen. But they have begun too late with us; all their attacks ſerve only to hurry us, much againſt our wills, into a ſtate of independance. Canada indeed they have taken in the bud; deſtroyed the bloſſoms that juſt began to bloom, and promiſed to that people the delicious fruits of freedom*. Let this be a leſſon to us, and keep us always on the watch, and always united. Great indeed would be the miniſterial acquiſition to command our purſes at pleaſure; but what advantage would the ſelfiſh advocates among us for our ſlavery gain by the victory? Aſk Ireland, ſhe can tell you, tho' only EXTERNALLY taxed. Turn to America, and young as ſhe is, ſhe can inform you. Look thro' this extenſive continent, and how many offices of profit do you find filled by Americans. They are not even allowed to ſhare in the plunder of their country. It has indeed been the policy of the miniſtry, when they have attempted the introduction of any new impoſition, to gild the pill with American appointments. American ſtampmaſters, American conſignees we have ſeen; and the friends to government among us, were all of a ſudden to be dandled in the lap of power and become the happy favorites of a ſmiling court. Fix but the impoſition, chain us to the oar, and then——ſuch poſts cannot be ſafely truſted in American hands: reverſions two or three lives deep are granted to the venal tools of power; we are made to taſte the ſweets of internal and external, and I might add, of eternal taxation, and to riot in all thoſe peculiar bleſſings that have made the Iriſh ſuch a happy, flouriſhing nation!

PRINCESS ANNE
Auguſt 8, 1774. VINDEX.

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* Paymaſter of the forces.

* By a late act of parliament the conſtitution of Canada is made entirely independent of the people, who are to be governed by a governor and legiſlative council, as they are called, who are dependent both for appointment and continuance in office upon the pleaſure of the crown, and the people are allowed no ſhare in the government at all.

At a very full meeting of Delegates from the different counties in the Colony and Dominion of Virginia, begun in Williamſburg the firſt Day of Auguſt, in the Year of our Lord 1774, and continued by ſeveral adjournments to Saturday the 6th of the ſame Month, the following Aſſociation was unanimouſly reſolved upon and agreed to.

WE his Majeſty's dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Delegates of the Freeholders of Virginia, deputed to repreſent them at a general Meeting in the city of Williamſburg, avowing our inviolable and unſhaken fidelity and attachment to our moſt gracious Sovereign, our regard and affection for all our Friends and fellow-Subjects in Great-Britain and elſewhere, proteſting againſt every act or thing, which may have the moſt diſtant tendency to interrupt, or in any wiſe diſturb his Majeſty's peace, and the good order of Government, within this his ancient colony, which we are reſolved to maintain and defend, at the Riſk of our Lives and Fortunes, but at the ſame time affected with the deepeſt anxiety, and moſt alarming apprehenſions, of thoſe Grievances and diſtreſſes by which his Majeſty's American Subjects are oppreſſed, and having taken under our moſt ſerious Deliberation the ſtate of the whole Continent, find that the preſent unhappy ſituation of our affairs is chiefly occaſioned by certain ill adviſed regulations, as well of our Trade as internal polity, introduced by ſeveral unconſtitutional acts of the Britiſh Parliament, and, at length, attempted to be enforced by the hand of power; ſolely influenced by theſe important and weighty Conſiderations, we think it an indiſpenſible Duty, which we owe to our country, ourſelves, and lateſt poſterity, to guard againſt ſuch dangerous and extenſive miſchiefs, by every juſt and proper means.

If, by the meaſures adopted, ſome unhappy conſequences and inconveniences ſhould be derived to our fellow Subjects, whom we wiſh not to injure in the ſmalleſt degree, we hope, and flatter ourſelves, that they will impute them to their real cauſe—the hard neceſſity to which we are driven.

That the good People of this Colony may, on ſo trying an occaſion, continue ſtedfaſtly directed to their moſt eſſential intereſts, in hopes that they will be influenced and ſtimulated by our Example to the greateſt induſtry, the ſtricteſt Oeconomy, Frugality, and the Exertion of every public Virtue, perſwaded that the Merchants, Manufacturers, and other Inhabitants of Great-Britain, and above all, that the Britiſh Parliament will be convinced how much the true Intereſt of that Kingdom muſt depend on the Reſtoration and Continuance of that mutual Friendſhip and Cordiality, which ſo happily ſubſiſt between us, we have unanimouſly, and, with one Voice, entered into the following Reſolutions and Aſſociation, which we do oblige ourſelves by thoſe ſacred Ties of Honour and Love to our Country, ſtrictly to obſerve; and farther declare, be for God and the world, that we will religiouſly adhere to and keep the ſame inviolate in every particular, until Redreſs of all ſuch American Grievances, as may be defined and ſettled at the general Congreſs of Delegates from the different colonies, ſhall be fully obtained, or until this Aſſociation ſhall be abrogated or altered by a general Meeting of the Deputies of this Colony, to be convened, as is herein after directed. And we do, with the greateſt Earneſtneſs, recommend this our Aſſociation, to all Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, and other Inhabitants of this Colony, hoping that they will chearfully and cordially accede thereto,

1ſt. We do hereby reſolve and declare that we will not, either directly indirectly, after the 1ſt Day of November next, import from Great-Britain, any Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes, whatever (Medicines excepted) nor will we, after that Day, import any Britiſh Manufactures, either from the Weſt Indies, or any other place, nor any article whatever, which we ſhall know, or have Reaſon to believe, was brought into ſuch countries from Great-Britain; nor will we purchaſe any ſuch articles, ſo imported, of any Perſon or Perſons whatſoever, except ſuch as are now in the Country, or ſuch as may arrive on or before the ſaid 1ſt Day of November, in Conſequence of Orders already given, and which cannot now be countermanded in Time.

2dly. We will neither ourſelves import, nor purchaſe, any ſlave or ſlaves, imported by any perſon, after the firſt Day of November next, either from Africa, the Weſt Indies, or any other place.

3dly. Conſidering the Article of Tea as the deteſtable inſtru-

ment, which laid the Foundation of the present Sufferings of our diſtreſſed Friends in the town of Boſton, we view it with Horror, and therefore reſolve that we will not, from this Day, either Import Tea of any Kind whatever, nor will we uſe or ſuffer even ſuch of it as is now on hand to be uſed in any of our Families.

4thly. If the Inhabitants of the town of Boſton, or any other Colony, ſhould, by Violence or dire neceſſity, be compelled to pay the East Company for deſtroying any Tea, which they have lately by their Agents unjuſtly attempted to force into the Colonies, we will not, directly or indirectly, import or purchaſe any Britiſh East India Commodity whatever, till the Company, or ſome other Perſon, on their Behalf, ſhall refund and fully reſtore to the Owners all ſuch Sum or Sums of Money as may be ſo extorted.

5thly. We do reſolve, that unleſs American Grievances are redreſſed before the 10th Day of Auguſt, 1775, we will not, after that Day, directly or indirectly, export Tobacco or any other Article whatever to Great-Britain; nor will we ſell any ſuch Articles as we think can be exported to Great-Britain with a Proſpect of Gain, to any Perſon or Perſons whatever, with a deſign of putting it into his or their power to export the ſame to Great-Britain, either on our own, his, or their, Account. And that this reſolution may be the more effectually carried into Execution, we do hereby recommend it to the Inhabitants of this Colony to refrain from the Cultivation of Tobacco as much as conveniently may be, and in Lieu thereof that they will, as we reſolve to do, apply their Attention and Induſtry to the Cultivation of all ſuch Articles as may form a proper Baſis for Manufactures of all Sorts, which we will endeavour to encourage throughout this Colony to the utmoſt of our Abilities.

6thly. We will endeavour to improve our breed of Sheep, and encreaſe their number to the utmoſt extent, and to this end, we will be as ſparing as we conveniently can in killing of ſheep, eſpecially thoſe of the moſt profitable kind: and if we ſhould at any Time be over ſtocked, or can conveniently ſpare any, we will diſpoſe of them to our neighbours, eſpecially the poorer ſort of people, upon moderate terms.

7thly. Reſolved, that the Merchants and other Venders of goods and merchandizes, within this Colony ought not to take Advantage of the Scarcity of Goods that may be occaſioned by this Aſſociation, but that they ought to ſell the ſame at the Rates they have been accuſtomed to for twelve months laſt paſt, and if they ſhall ſell any ſuch Goods on higher Terms, or ſhall in any manner, or by any Device whatever, violate or depart from this Reſolution, we will not, and are of Opinion that no Inhabitant of this Colony ought, at any time thereafter, to deal with any ſuch Perſons, their Factors, or Agents, for any Commodity whatever, and it is recommended to the Deputies of the ſeveral Counties that Committees be choſen in each County by ſuch Perſons as accede to this Aſſociation to take effectual care that theſe Reſolves be properly obſerved, and for correſponding occaſionally with the General Committee of correſpondence in the city of Williamſburg. Provided, that if Exchange ſhould riſe, ſuch Advance may be made in the Prices of Goods as ſhall be approved by the Committee of each County.

8thly, In order the better to diſtinguiſh ſuch worthy Merchants and Traders, who are wellwiſhers to this Colony, from thoſe who may attempt, through motives of Self-intereſt, to obſtruct our Views, we do hereby reſolve that we will not after the firſt Day of November next deal with any Merchant or Trader who will not ſign this Aſſociation, nor until he hath obtained a Certificate of his having done ſo from the County Committee, or any three members thereof. And if any Merchant, Trader, or other perſon, ſhall import any Goods or Merchandize after the ſaid firſt Day of November, contrary to this Aſſociation, we give it as our Opinion, that ſuch Goods and Merchandize ſhould be either forthwith reſhipped or delivered up to the County Committee, to be ſtored at the Riſk of the Importer, unleſs ſuch Importer ſhall give a proper Aſſurance to the ſaid Committee that ſuch Goods or Merchandizes ſhall not be ſold within this Colony during the Continuance of this Aſſociation; and if ſuch Importer ſhall refuſe to comply with one or other of theſe Terms, upon Application and due Caution given to him or her, by the ſaid Committee, or any three Members thereof, ſuch Committee is required to publiſh the Truth of the Caſe in the Gazettes, and in the County where he or ſhe reſides, and we will thereafter conſider ſuch Perſon or perſons as inimical to this Country, and break off every Connection and all Dealings with them.

9thly. Reſolved. that if any Perſon or Perſons ſhall export Tobacco, or any other Commodity, to Great-Britain, after the 10th Day of Auguſt, 1775, contrary to this Aſſociation, we ſhall hold ourſelves obliged to conſider ſuch Perſon or Perſons as inimical to the Community, and as an Approver of American Grievances; and give it as our Opinion that the Public ſhould be advertiſed of his Conduct, as in the 8th Article is deſired.

10thly. Being fully perſwaded that the united Wiſdom of the general Congreſs may improve theſe our Endeavours to preſerve the Rights and Liberties in Britiſh America, we decline enlarging at preſent, but do hereby reſolve that we will conform to, and ſtrictly obſerve, all ſuch Alterations or additions, aſſented to by the Delegates for this Colony, as they may judge it neceſſary to adopt, after the ſame ſhall be publiſhed and made known to us.

11thly. Reſolved, that we think ourſelves called upon, by every Principle of Humanity and brotherly Affection, to extend the utmoſt and ſpeedieſt Relief to our diſtreſſed fellow Subjects in the town of Boſton, and therefore moſt earneſtly recommend it to all the inhabitants of this Colony to make ſuch liberal contributions as they can afford; to be collected and remitted to Boſton, in ſuch a manner as may beſt anſwer ſo deſireable a Purpoſe,

12thly, and laſtly. Reſolved, that the Moderator of this Meeting, and in Caſe of his Death, ROBERT CARTER NICHOLAS, Eſq, be empowered, on any future occaſion, that may in his Opinion require it, to convene the ſeveral Delegates of this Colony, at ſuch Time and Place as he may judge proper; and, in Caſe of the Death or Abſence of any Delegate, it is recommended that ano- be choſen in his Place.

The Honourable PEYTON RANDOLPH, Eſq; Chairman.

(Signed by 108 Members.)

Inſtructions for the DEPUTIES appointed to meet in GENERAL CONGRESS on the part of this Colony.

THE unhappy Diſputes between Great Britain and her American Colonies. which began about the third year of the reign of his preſent Majeſty, and ſince, continually increaſing, have proceeded to Lengths ſo dangerous and alarming as to excite juſt apprehenſions in the minds of his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects of this Colony that they are in danger of being deprived of their natural, ancient, conſtitutional, and chartered Rights, have compelled them to take the ſame into their moſt ſerious conſideration; and, being deprived of their uſual and accuſtomed mode of making known their grievances: have appointed us their repreſentatives to conſider what is proper to be done in this dangerous criſis of American affairs. It being our opinion that the united wiſdom of North America ſhould be collected in a General Congreſs of all the Colonies, we have appointed the Honble. PEYTON RANDOLPH, Eſquire, RICHARD HENRY LEE, GEORGE WASHINGTON, PATRICK HENRY, RICHARD BLAND, BENJAMIN HARRISON, and EDMUND PENDLETON, Eſquires, Deputies to repreſent this Colony in the ſaid Congreſs, to be held at Philadelphia on the firſt Monday in September next.

And that they may be the better informed of our Sentiments touching the conduct we wiſh them to obſerve on this important occaſion, we deſire that they will expreſs, in the firſt place, our Faith and true allegiance to his Majeſty King George the Third, our lawful and rightful Sovereign; and that we are determined, with our Lives and Fortunes, to ſupport him in the legal Exerciſe of all his juſt rights and prerogatives. And however miſrepreſented, we ſincerely approve of a conſtitutional connexion with Great Britain, and wiſh moſt ardently a return of that Intercourſe of Affection and commercial connexion that formerly united both Countries, which can only be effected by a Removal of thoſe Cauſes of Diſcontent which have of late unhappily divided us.

It cannot admit of a Doubt but that Britiſh Subjects in America are entitled to the ſame Rights and Privileges as their fellow Subjects poſeſs in Britain; and therefore, that the power aſſumed by the Britiſh parliament to bind America by their ſtatutes, in all caſes whatſoever, is unconſtitutional, and the ſource of theſe unhappy differences.

The end of Government would be defeated by the Britiſh Parliament exerciſing a power over the Lives, the Property, and the Liberty of the American Subject; who are not, and, from their local Circumſtances, cannot be there repreſented. Of this Nature we conſider the ſeveral Acts of Parliament for raiſing a Revenue in America, for extending the Juriſdiction of the Courts of Admiralty for ſeizing American Subjects and tranſporting them to Britain to be tried for Crimes committed in America, and the late ſeveral oppreſſive acts reſpecting the Town of Boſton and Province of the Maſſachuſets Bay.

The original conſtitution of the American Colonies poſſeſſing their Aſſemblies with the ſole right of directing their internal polity, it is abſolutely deſtructive of the End of their Inſtitution that their Legiſlatures ſhould be ſuſpended, or prevented, by haſty Diſſolutions from exerciſing their legiſlative Powers.

Wanting the Protection of Britain, we have long acquieſced in their Acts of Navigation reſtrictive of our Commerce, which we conſider as an ample Recompenſe for ſuch Protection; but as thoſe Acts derive their Efficacy from that Foundation alone, we have Reaſon to expect they will be reſtrained ſo as produce the reaſonable Purpoſes of Britain and not injurious to us.

To obtain redreſs of theſe grievances, without which the People of America never can be ſafe, free, nor happy, they are willing to undergo the great inconveniency that will be derived to them from ſtopping all Imports whatſoever from Great Britain, after the firſt day of November next, and alſo to ceaſe exporting any Commodity whatſoever to the ſame Place after the tenth Day of Auguſt, 1775. The earneſt deſire we have to make as quick and full payment as poſſible of our Debts to Great Britain, and to avoid the heavy injury that would ariſe to this Country from an earlier adoption of the non-Exportation Plan, after the People have applied ſo much of their Labour to the perfecting of the preſent Crop, by which means they have been prevented from purſuing other meaſures of clothing and ſupporting their Families, have rendered it neceſſary to reſtrain you in this Article of Non-exportation; but it is our Deſire that you cordially co-operate with our Siſter Colonies, in General Congreſs in ſuch other juſt and proper Methods as they, or the Majority, ſhall deem neceſſary for the Accompliſhment of theſe valuable Ends

The Proclamation iſſued by General Gage, in the Government of the province of the Maſſachuſets-Bay, declaring it Treaſon for the Inhabitants of that Province to aſſemble themſelves to conſider of their Grievances and form Aſſociations for their common Conduct on the Occaſion, and requiring the Civil Magiſtrates and Officers to apprehend all ſuch perſons to be tried for their ſuppoſed Offences, is the moſt alarming Proceſs that ever appeared in a Britiſh Government; that the ſaid General Gage hath thereby aſſumed and taken upon himſelf Powers denied by the Conſtitution to our legal Sovereign; that he, not having condeſcended to diſcloſe by what Authority he exerciſes ſuch extenſive and unheard of Powers, we are at a Loſs to determine whether he intends to juſtify himſelf as the Repreſentative of the King or as the commander in Chief of his Majeſty's Forces in America. If he conſiders himſelf as acting in the Character of his Majeſty's Repreſentative, we would remind him that the Statute 25th Edward III. has expreſſed and defined all treaſonable offences, and that the Legiſlature of Great Britain hath declared that no offence ſhall be conſtrued to be Treaſon but ſuch as is pointed out by that Statute, and this was done to take out of the Hands of tyrannical Kings, and of weak and wicked Miniſters, that deadly Weapon which conſtructive Treaſon had furniſhed them with, and which had drawn the Blood of the beſt and honeſteſt Men in the kingdom; and that the King of Great Britain hath no Right by his Proclamation to ſubject his People to Impriſonment, Pains, and Penalties.

That if the ſaid General Gage conceives he is empowered to act in this Manner, as the Commander in chief of his Majeſty's Forces in America, this odious and illegal Proclamation muſt be conſidered as a plain and full declaration that this deſpotick Viceroy will be bound by no Law, nor regard the conſtitutional Rights of his Majeſty's Subjects, whenever they interfere with the Plan he has formed for oppreſſing the good People of the Maſſachuſetts Bay; and therefore, that the executing, or attempting to execute, ſuch Proclamation, will juſtify Reſiſtance and Repriſal.

An Abſtract of a Bill entitled, "An ACT for making more effectually proviſion for the government of the province of QUEBEC, in NORTH AMERICA.

THE preamble recites the ceſſion of the ſeveral countries and dependencies of the province of Canada, as deſcribed by the definitive treaty of peace ſigned at Paris on the 10th of February 1764; and after aſcertaining its boundaries reſpecting its ſituation, as joining the other Britiſh provinces in North America, proceeds to annex all the neighbouring countries and diſtricts not already deſcribed, to be within the limits of ſome other province, or already annexed to the government of Newfoundland during his Majeſty's pleaſure.

It next proceeds to ſtate, that the inhabitants at the time of ſaid ceſſion, amounted to one hundred thouſand perſons, profeſſing the Romiſh religion! and that the powers and authorities hitherto granted and given to the Governor and civil officers, have been found inaplicable to the ſtate and circumſtances of the ſaid province, the ſaid powers and every authority whatſoever, derived or exerciſed under them, are, and ſhall after——day be revoked, annulled, and made void.

It is declared by the firſt clauſe, that all his Majeſty's ſubjects, profeſſing the Romiſh religion as deſcribed at the conqueſt thereof, may have, hold, and enjoy, the free exerciſe of the ſame, ſubject to the King's ſupremacy, provided that nothing ſhall be conſtrued to extend to diſable his majeſty from making proviſion for the ſupport of a Proteſtant Clergy within the ſaid province.

It is enacted, that his Majeſty's Canadian ſubjects ſhall enjoy their property and proſſeſſions, with all uſages and cuſtoms, and all other their civil rights, without any impediment whatever: and that in all controverſies relative to the ſame, his Majeſty's ſubjects, whether Canadian or Engliſh, reſort ſhall be had to the laws of Canada, and not to the Laws of England, for the deciſion of the ſame.

It then recites the excellence of the criminal Law of England. and ordains, that it ſhall prevail in every inſtance and mode of trial and criminal proſecution whatever, to the excluſion of any Law of the province, previous to the year 1774.—ſubject to ſuch alterations and amendments as the Governor and Legiſlative council ſhall cauſe to be made therein.

It next recites, that as it is at preſent inexpedient to call an Aſſembly, Be it therefore enacted, that it may be Lawful for his Majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, by warrant under his or her ſign-manual, to appoint a Council not exceeding twenty-three, nor leſs than ſeventeen, who ſhall have power and authority to make ordinances for the peace and welfare of ſaid province, with the conſent of his Majeſty's Governor or in his abſence, of the Lieutenant Governor, or Commander in Chief for the time being.

The two latter clauſes confine the meeting and debating of the ſaid Legiſlative Council to certain ſtated times, and reſerves to his Majeſty the appointing of ſuch, of criminal, civil, and eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction, as his Majeſty ſhall think neceſſary and proper for the circumſtances of ſaid province.

To the Printer of the NORFOLK INTELLIGENCER.

Sir,

IT is amazing that in ſuch a boaſted ſucceſſion of modern patriots as have ſtood forth for the liberty of the people, any ſhould ſtill perſevere in mantaining doctrines of independence in ſpite of conſtant defeats and unavoidable detection. Perhaps they imagine modern patriotiſm does honour to human knowledge and adopt it to preſerve their conſequence in this enlightened age. The term may have had its meaning in the virtuous ages of ancient Rome, and might be the honourable ſtandard of true merit in a public capacity: But what degree of conformity can be found in the words and actions of men who after reviling the higheſt characters in the kingdom with unexampled inſolence, become proſelytes to meaſures they had recently and ſolemnly condemned; who deſert the cauſe of their country for the ſplendor of a lucrative poſt, and who muſt barter their peace of mind for ever by ſo deteſtable and baſe-born an apoſtacy. Can men bewildered in the venal ſtream of intereſt dare to call themſelves the aſſertors of freedom, or does our ſecurity in this country depend on the diſcordant paſſions of men incited by diſcontent inflamed by prejudice who imagine that the extravagant lengths they have gone in inſulting the majeſty of the throne can procure an amneſty for ſuch atrocious crimes, or awe the friends to government into a ſervile and diſgraceful compliance. For the truth of what I advance I appeal to reaſon and experience, yet as theſe are but curſory hints which may be eaſily filled up by an abler penman, I ſhall at preſent content myſelf with the humble taſk of tranſcribing a letter which appeared ſome years ſince in the Engliſh papers, addreſſed to Mr. Wilkes and which may afford ſome inſight into that great mans character.

Obſervator.

To JOHN WILKES Eſqr.

Aude aliquid brevibus Gyaris, vel carcere dignum.

My dear Son,

Tho' I moſt cordially rejoice at your enlargement from priſon, and all the illuminations, which have been made in honor of my darling child, have beamed gladneſs into the heart of a moſt indulgent parent; yet allow me to expreſs my apprehenſions, leſt the cauſe ſhould languiſh now your ſufferings are over. I know that it in politics as in religion: conſtraint is the parent of perverſe opinions, and perſecution conſtantly begets zeal. Beware how you fall into a miſtake, too common to perſons in your ſituation, that the favour of the people is founded on the goodneſs of your cauſe, or upon ſome extraordinary merit in yourſelf: they are too fooliſh to judge of the former, and not fooliſh enough to believe the latter of theſe propoſitions. No: your ſucceſs was owing to the inveteracy and rancour with which you have been perſecuted by a ſucceſſion of miniſters; and I am afraid when you ceaſe to be the object of court reſentment, you will ceaſe likewiſe to be the object of popular favour. To prevent this worſt of evils, allow me my Son, to lay down a few rules for the conduct of your future life. You are well aware, that in a limited ſtate like this of Great Britain, prerogative and liberty are as ſuſpicious of each other, as any two neighbouring ſtates: for which reaſon it ought to be your firſt great care to keep conſtant bickerings and jealouſies among them. To effect this deſirable end, let it be your buſineſs, upon all public occaſions, to repreſent power as inſolent and encroaching, and liberty never to be ſawcy and ungovernable. Harangues with vehemence and invective, upon thoſe great popular topics, the number of placemen and penſioners; the enormous weight of our taxes; the decline of our manufactures and commerce; the miſmanagement of the public revenues; and be ſure to ſeaſon your diſcourſe with perſonal abuſe, and jumble together the vices of the man with the errors and miſconduct of the miniſter. By this means you will warm the minds of the people, and rouſe them from that ſtate of dulneſs and ſtupidity, in which they might otherwiſe ſit by unconcerned, and let their country be ruined. But remember my ſon, that the thoughts of the multitude have no certain, equal, regular motion——they ſpring out by fits and ſtarts, like flaſhes of lightning, which are over before one can ſay it lightens. Watch, then, for the critical moment the golden opportunity——and when you ſee them heave like a volcano, full of fire and fury, ſtep forward, and mark out the channel in which they are to pour out the deſtructive lava. This may ſerve by way of a general direction for your conduct: as to particulars your own ſagacity will point them out to you, without my aſſiſtance. Should an public loſs or calamity, either at home or abroad, diſconcert the miniſtry, and diſquiet the people, that is a favourable moment, when their fears are all afloat, to work upon their minds, and mould them to your purpoſe. You have nothing to do but to repreſent the misfortune as owing to the miſconduct of the adminiſtration: though it be a fire, famine, peſtilence, or earthquake, the rabble will believe it. What a glorious opportunity does the late riot at Boſton afford, to exaſperate the people againſt the preſent ſyſtem of government! and why do you, and your party neglect it ſo ſhamefully, and ſit down to enjoy the glad tidings in ſecrecy and ſilence? You ought long before this time, to have laid it wholly to the charge of the preſent odious adminiſtration: you ſhould have expatiated upon the ſtreets flowing with the blood of no leſs than three perſons laid dead upon the ſpot: you ſhould have told the people of the vaſt gigantic broad ſword of an uncommon ſize, which was undoubtedly ſent thither by Lord Bute for no very good purpoſe; above all, you ought to have inſinuated, that the ſnow balls were carried over from England in the cartridge boxes of the ſoldiers, on purpoſe to be given to ſome tools of government to pelt the military with, and by that means afford them a plauſible pretence for firing upon the Boſtonians. I am all aſtoniſhment that you ſhould neglect ſuch copious topics as theſe, which afforded you the faireſt handle for abuſing the government, and aſſiſting the cauſe of tumult and ſedition. But it is not yet too late to take them up, if you do it in a warm and ſpirited manner. I cannot conclude without juſt hinting to you that you ought not to ſpare his M———either in your ſpeeches or writings: for though he is certainly one of the moſt virtuous and gracious Princes that ever ſat upon the throne, yet it is abſolutely neceſſary that you ſhould vilify and inſult him, for this evident reaſon, becauſe it is impoſſible that our cauſe ſhould ſucceed till you have effectually alienated the people from his perſon and government. If you obſerve theſe directions. and put into execution the ſcheme of demanding your ſeat in the houſe of commons, at the head of a corps of liberty boys, you cannot fail to immortalize your memory, to meet with the warmeſt ſupport from all true lovers of licentiouſneſs, and to recommend yourſelf to the favour and protection of your moſt indulgent parent.

F.

EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCE.

Mails from HOLLAND, FRANCE, and FLANDERS.

Extract of a letter from VENICE, April 28.

"Tomorrow five men of war of 60 to 80 guns will be launched, and we hear five more will be finiſhed within a fortnight; they are very buſy in caſting cannons, and the ſenate have ſent orders to Breſcia for 40,000 muſquets to be finiſhed with the utmoſt expedition; and, in ſhort, every circumſtance foretels an approaching war.

"We juſt learn, that the Ruſſians met five French merchant men in the Gulph of Dalmatia, and after examining them, they were declared due prizes to the Ruſſian flag, and carried to the iſle of Paros; but whether the Court of Verſailles will remain indifferent to ſo groſs an inſult, time muſt determine.

"Authentic letters from Cadiz mention, that the four men of war and two frigates which were fitted out at their port, received orders to ſail to Carthagena, where they are to join another man of war and two frigates. To what purpoſe, or where this little fleet is deſtined, is yet unknown. It has about 360 guns, and 3000 men on board. But what makes the matter ſuſpicious is, that it was given out that this fleet was deſigned to ſail for Leghorn, where it was to take the Grand Duke and Ducheſs of Tuſcany on board, in order to carry them to Madrid; but ſuch an armament was not neceſſary for that purpoſe; and we are informed, that their Royal Highneſſes never intended to undertake that voyage.

"By the ſame channel we are informed, that an immenſe number

of troops and warlike ſtore have been tranſported to the Havannah.

They write from Gibraltar that four ſail of Spaniſh men of war had juſt paſſed the Gut, with ſeveral tranſports under convoy, full of troops ſaid to be bound to Carthagena, in the Weſt-Indies.

They write from Madrid, that orders have been ſent to the Spaniſh Governors in the Mediterranean, not to ſuffer for the future, any Ruſſian ſhips of war, on any pretence whatever, to caſt anchor in thoſe ſeas belonging to the crown of Spain.

We are credibly informed, that the King of Spain has taken up a number of Dutch veſſels of burden in the Texel, for the purpoſe of exporting ſtores to the Mediterranean and Weſt Indies, and has ordered the iſland of Majorca, in the Mediterranean to be repaired and fortified in the ſtrongeſt manner, great quantities of building materials and ſtores having lately been exported from Spain for that purpoſe.

Warſaw, April 21. M. Kraſzewſki, Regimentary of Great Poland, having been ſummoned by the Pruſſians to leave his quarters, he not only kept his poſt but moreover cauſed the Pruſſian Eagles, newly planted within his department to be taken down, purſuant to the orders of the commiſſion of war; upon which the Pruſſian Captain, who commanded the detachment, charged with this execution, drew near, and aſked him the reaſon of this alteration; but he having anſwered, that he had only obeyed the orders of the commiſſion of war of the Republic, the officer retired having no inſtructions how to act in ſuch caſe.

Extract of a letter from WARSAW, May 7.

"Yeſterday the plan of the Permanent Council came again before the Delegates, and was the third time rejected. The Pruſſian Miniſter again acquainted them, that in caſe they would not ſign it on that day, he would declare war with the Republic; but the Delegates unanimouſly anſwered him. "That the nation could loſe no more by a war than what they had already done, therefore were determined to fight for their liberty."

"A few days ago arrived here the Regimentary Kraſzewſky from Great Poland, who declared, that the Pruſſians had commenced hoſtilities with the Poliſh troops at Kiolow upon the Wartha, at which engagement ſixty of the latter were killed, and eighty were taken priſoners; he met on the road a detachment of ten Pruſſian huſſars, whom he took priſoners and brought hither, which greatly alarmes this city.

"Yeſterday a courier arrived here with the moſt ſurpriſing news, that the Pruſſians have taken the city of Frevenſtadt; that another army of 10,000 Pruſſians has juſt entered Great Poland; and that a large Pruſſian army, with the King at its head, is encamped near Dantzick."

BASTIA, (the capital of the iſland of Corſica,) April 10.

The French troops have beat down, with their cannon, three houſes which were ſituated in a diſtrict named Vezzani, near Corte, where ſome banditti had taken refuge, after having attacked a convoy and killed ſeveral ſoldiers; and it is thought thoſe diſturbers of the public repoſe were all buried in the ruins.

Hamburgh April 29. The accounts lately publiſhed by the Court of Peterſburgh, on the ſubject of the advantages which her troops were ſaid to have gained over the rebels, made us believe that tranquility would ſoon be reſtored in the government of Orenburg; but advices juſt received here from good hands aſſure, on the contrary, that the flame of ſedition encreaſes daily, and even to ſuch a degree, that General Bibikow, finding himſelf too weak, had diſpatched an expreſs to his Court for a reinforcement of troops to be ſent him without delay,

Conſtantinople, April 8. His highneſs after conſiderable reinforcing his army, has turned all his thoughts on his Marine; beſide the new built ſhips, ſeveral foreign ones have been bought and armed. The Ottoman fleet will be divided into two diviſions, the ſtrongeſt of which will go out of the Dardanelles and cruize in the Black ſea. The Porte has freighted ſome ſmall veſſels which are to carry the troops for landing, thoſe that are deſtined for the Archipelago, and for a new expedition in Crimea and alſo to reinforce the garriſon of Oczakow. The Seraſkier of the laſt-mentioned place will be able, with theſe additional troops to make a diverſion in Beſſarabia. Peace is no longer talked of here, and the government are doing their utmoſt to carry on the war with vigour.

The 20th of laſt month, Mr. Murray ambaſſador from the King of Great Britain received an extraordinary courier from his Court which occaſioned much ſpeculation among our politicians, who, as the public wiſh for an end of the war, pretended this courier was charged with diſpatches, relative to freſh negociations for a peace. However, it is thought no peace will be concluded between the belligerent powers before the end of the next campaign.

It is reported that the Nogayan Tartars have made an excurſion into Ruſſian Tartary and taken an officer and 300 men.

Private letters from Peterſburgh ſay, that there actually ſubſiſts a negociation of peace between Ruſſia and the Porte, which is likely to be concluded with good ſucceſs, as the preſent Great Sultan has given up the intereſt of Poland, which has hitherto been a great obſtacle at the different congreſſes.

Letters from Vienna mention, that on the 5th of laſt month a fire broke out in the town of Fraumark, in which 210 houſes, and a great number of barns, were entirely deſtroyed. Nothing was left ſtanding except the church, the vicarage-houſe, the ſchool, and the ancient town-houſe. Six perſons loſt their lives.

It is now generally underſtood, that immediate orders will be iſſued for augmenting conſiderably the garriſons of Port Mahon and Gibraltar.

Warſaw, April 30. According to letters from Moldavia, the Ruſſians are on their march into Walachia, and ſince the 12th ult. ſix regiments have taken the rout of Jaſſey to Bender, the fortifications of which are augmenting, and conſiderable magazines are forming.

The army of Prince Dolgorucki, which has paſſed the winter in the government of Kiovia, and has an eye on the Crimea, is to march to Bog. We are aſſured that this army is to open the trenches before Oczakow the begining of May. It is ſaid that General Loſſow has entered Samogitia with a corps of Pruſſian troops.

LONDON, May 30.

It is whiſpered in many places, that the death of the King of France will be the cauſe of many great men loſing their heads in that kingdom. The Duke de Choiſeul has ventured to Paris, and is very buſy; the Duke de Aguillon and Madame Barre begin to find their friends falling off amazingly. in ſhort Paris and Verſailles are in ſome meaſure, all in confuſion. The people do not heſitate to ſpeak their minds, and it muſt be a miracle that prevents a civil war. This is expected, and if they go on as they have begun, it is thought arbitrary power will be very ſhort lived there.

It is expected that Lady North will be created a Baroneſs; and Sir William Meredith, a Peer of Ireland.

All the petitions againſt the 2d and 3d Boſton bills, had no more effect than thoſe preferred againſt the port act; for they paſſed by exceſſive high majorities in the Houſe of Lords. The following Peers were ſpeakers, Richmond, Sandwich, Lyttleton, Shelburne, Rochford, Dartmouth, Cambden, Mansfield and Rockingham. For the bills, 92, againſt them, 20.

After the Lords had paſſed the Boſton regulating Bill, the following Peers proteſted againſt it, Richmond, Portland, Abingdon, King, Effingham, Ponſonby, Rockingham, Abergavenny, Leinſter, Craven, and Fitzwilliam.

Laſt night ſome diſpatches of importance were received from Sir Joſeph Yorke, at the Hague; and this morning an expreſs arrived from Lord Stormont at Paris, which occaſioned a Cabinet Council to be ſummoned this day at St. James's.

Laſt night alſo a courier arrived expreſs from Madrid, with ſome diſpatches ſaid to be of the greateſt importance.

Extract of a Letter from MALAGA, April 10.

"A ſhip from Ireland, Capt Matriford. who is juſt put in here, informs us that about fifty leagues from this Port he was ſtopped by three Spaniſh men of war, one of which hoiſted out her boat and boarded him, when they took the greateſt part of his proviſions, &c. They examined the cargo, and after uſing the Captain and his crew very ill, they ſuffered the veſſel to proceed on her voyage."

They write from Gibraltar, that the Le Opalle, a French Frigate of 30 guns, had been taken by the Emperor of Morocco's corſairs in the Mediterranean, after a deſperate battle, wherein moſt of the crew were maſſacred and carried into Larache.

A Dutch man of war of 54 guns from Euſtatia, was loſt off Cape Finiſterre on the night of the 6th ult. and every ſoul on board periſhed.

The Oriflamme from Cadiz to Lima, is loſt at Valparaiſo, on the coaſt of Chili, and all the crew periſhed.

By the William, Lamport, arrived at Wexford from Liverpool laſt Saturday, we have advice, that about eleven o'clock in the morning of the proceeding Thurſday, in company with ſeveral veſſels, about a league from the rock of Liverpool, a ſloop foundered, and though in the very center of the fleet, the weather and the ſea moderate, all on board, except one ſailor periſhed.

St. James's, May 20. His Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed this day to confer the honour of Knighthood upon John Silveſter, M. D. of Hackney in the county of Middleſex.

A Report prevails at the weſt end of the town, that Sir Jeffery Amherſt will ſhortly be created a Peer of Great-Britain.

Two more regiments of infantry are, it is reported, ordered to hold themſelves ready to embark for New York on a ſhort notice.

Monday evening, Captain Elphinſton arrived in town expreſs from Sir Peter Dennis, commander in chief of the King's ſhips in the Mediterranean, with an account that the Dey of Algiers had behaved with the utmoſt inſolence and contempt to our flag, and peremptorily refuſed to receive Mr. Fraſer as Conſul from hence, nor would he ſuffer him to remain in the city. He concluded by ordering the Engliſh men of war to leave the Bay directly, with which the Admiral complied.

The Lords yeſterday read a ſecond time and committed the Bill for providing more commodious quarters for the troops in North America.

Weſtminſter, May 20.

This day his Majeſty went in the uſual ſtate to the Houſe of Peers, and gave the Royal Aſſent to the following bills. viz.

The Bill for the more impartial adminiſtration of juſtice in the province of Maſſachuſetts-Bay.

The bill for the better regulating the civil government of Maſſachuſetts-Bay.

The bill for for better regulating the government of Quebec.

The bill to continue an act for eſtabliſhing certain free ports in the Iſland of Jamaica.

The bill to indemnify perſons who have omitted to qualify themſelves for offices or employments within the time limited by Law, and allowing a further time for that purpoſe.

The bill for the better regulations of private mad houſes.

The bill for regulating inſurances on Lives, and for prohibiting all ſuch inſurances, except in caſes where the perſons inſuring ſhall have an intereſt in the life or death of the perſons inſured.

The bill for the more effectually ſecuring the health of priſoners in goals, during their confinement.

The bill to amend an act for the more effectually preventing frauds and abuſes committed by perſons employed in the manufactures of hats, woollen, linen, and cotton.

The bill to prevent the importation of bad ſilver coin.

The bill to enlarge the term of an act made in the 7th year of his preſent Majeſty, for repairing and widening ſeveral Roads leading from the town of Air, and other roads therein mentioned, in the county of Air; and for repairing and widening certain other roads within the ſaid county of Air.

And to ſeveral other public and private bills.

NEW-YORK, July 14.

Several hand-bills on the times, have been printed and diſtributed in this city.

Mr. M'Dougalls Addreſs to the Freeholders Freemen of this city and county, upon the nomination of five Gentlemen to repreſent the province in the continental congreſs. In this performance, the propoſed method of taking the ſenſe of the city upon the nomination, that ought to be adopted, is cenſured as an infringement of the Liberties of the electors; for which reaſon, and to end a controverſy that might prove injurious to the common cauſe, this Gentleman declines a nomination to the congreſs.

A moderate Man's addreſs to the free-born Citizens of New-York, approving of the reſolves, diſapproving of the manner in which they were obtained; and recommending that the eleven members be deſired to reſume their ſeats in the committee chamber.

Yeſterday was publiſhed, an addreſs to the inhabitants of this town and county, by Agricola.—The author of the laſt exhibition, undertakes to juſtify the mode, in which the Committee propoſed, agreeable to that ordained for their direction by the Electors at the City-Hall, on the 6th inſtant, to collect the ſenſe of the city and county, touching the choiſe of deputies for the Congreſs. He makes very free, in other reſpects, with Mr. M'Dougall's addreſs, and treats the moderate Man (who would gladly conciliate all differences, and wiſhes the eleven members may reſume their ſeats at the Gommittee board) with ineffable contempt.

STANZAS on SOLITARY BLISS.

WHERE nature—ſimply elegant—array'd
In artleſs garb, thro' amaranthine bow'rs
Breathes fragrant odours, and each op'ning glade,
Spontaneous produce! charms the eye with flow'rs;

Where cloud-capt rocks, in nice confuſion riſe,
With velvet lawns, ſlow-winding on below,
While heav'n-born muſic thro' each crevice flies,
And rills, reſponſive, ſoftly purling, flow.

Tranquil the tenant's breaſt!—He, quite unknown
To ſplendid miſery, or gilded care,
In ſtraw-roof'd cot calls happineſs his own,
Since calm contentment has her ſtandard there.

When roſy morn makes ſable night withdraw,
And early larks announce the infant-day,
With well brac'd limbs he climbs the mountain's brow,
Creation's ample volume to ſurvey.

Where moſs-clad trees, with ivy inter-twin'd,
Their boughs extend, to form a kind retreat,
In contemplation wrapt, to thought inclin'd,
He ſeeks a ſhelter from the noon-tide heat.

His plodding ſteps bent homewards,—when the ſun
Darts leſs intenſely, deck'd in ruſſet veſt,
Babes, and their mother, round the father run
To hail him welcome, and to be careſs'd.

From the bleak north, when ſurly winter comes,
Whoſe fleecy mantle hides the cold-ſtruck plain,
When icicles are pendant on the domes,
Flocks, and his ſocial friends, engage the ſwain.

Say, where's the monarch, in his regal robe,
—With train of paraſites,—a venal crew!
So bleſt as he!—Anxiety will probe
The hearts of princes, and their fav'rites too!

High-ſounding titles, pageantry and ſhew,
The ſculptur'd parlour, and the echoing hall,
With food exotic,—can no bleſs beſtow;—
A rural hut be mine,—and take them all.

PHILO-RIRUS.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Wanted on CHARTER,

FOR HISPANIOLA,

A VESSEL of One to two hundred Tons Burthen.

I HAVE for Sale one or two Cargoes of Scantling, Plank and Shingles, for which I will take Weſt India Goods; I have alſo Weſt India and Continent Rum, Molaſſes &c. and ſome Corn which I will ſell cheap for Caſh, or Wheat. Thoſe indebted to LOVE MITCHELL and Co. WILLIAM AYLES and Co. or to me on my Private Account, are requeſted to be ſpeedy in their Payments, Particularly thoſe who expect to Pay in Lumber. I will receive no Lumber in Payment of Debts now due, after the firſt of October. WILLIAM AYLES has no Authority to receive any Lumber or other Debts in which I am concerned.

ALEXANDER LOVE.

FOR CHARTER.

The BRIG MOLLY,

JOHN COLLINS,

Burthen 7000 Buſhels.

Apply to GREENWOOD, RITSON, & MARSH

Norfolk, Auguſt 9, 1774.

WANTED

A PAIR of Young BAY GELDINGS, not under fourteen hands and an half high, half blooded and well match'd: A good price will be given for ſuch, if brought to the Portſmouth Races, by AITCHISON & PARKER.

Norfolk, Auguſt 11, 1774. 3

ALL GENTLEMEN holding Subſcription Papers for the PORTSMOUTH RACES, are requeſted to give them into the Printer hereof as ſoon as they can. The Subſcribers to ſaid Races may pay the Sums they have ſubſcribed for, to Mr. JOHN SHEDDEN in Norfolk; to Mr. RICHARD NESTOR in Portſmouth, or to either of the Truſtees, who expect to have the whole of the Subſcription Money: is collected by the firſt of next month.

GEORGE VEAL.
JOHN GOODRICH ſenr.
HENRY BROWN.
SAMUEL KER.
JOHN MITCHELL.
} Truſtees.

Portſmouth, Auguſt 10, 1774.

NORFOLK Auguſt 4th.

BY a Letter from the Town Clerk of Boſton of the 16th July, we are informed that they put great confidence in the vigorous efforts of the Colonies, and promiſe themſelves a final deliverance from their great calamities: "which they ſay for their own, their country and poſterity's political ſalvation, they are reſolved by God's aſſiſtance to ſuſtain with fortitude and patience."

Yeſterday a young Man was unfortunately drowned in this river, when bathing himſelf.

* * * An anſwer to a Letter ſigned an ENGLISHMAN, having appeared in Mrs. Rind's paper No. 428. We ſhall at the requeſt of the Engliſhman and information of our Readers, inſert the ſame with his reply to it, in our next.

A Poem entitled an Ode to Virtue, is received and under conſideration.

A Letter ſigned a Libertine dated from Princeſs Anne, is come to hand, but before it can be inſerted, it will be neceſſary that he comply with what he mentioned in the cover of his laſt.

HAMPTON. Auguſt 10th.

Entered inward, ſince the 3d Auguſt.

Sloop Succeſs, from Barbadoes, with Rum, Muſcovado Sug. & Limes.
Sloop Lady Catherine, from Antigua, with Rum.
Sloop Content, from Jamaica, with Rum, and Muſcovado Sugar.
Sloop Savage, from Rhode Iſland, with Rum, Cheeſe, and Molaſſes.
Brig Liberty, from Alicant, with Ballaſt.
Brig Betſey, from Barbadoes, with Rum, and Muſcovado Sugar.
Schooner Sandyland, from Barbadoes, with Rum.
Ship Grenada Packet, from Grenades, with Ballaſt.
Brig Molly, from Grenades, with Rum.

Cleared outward.

Sloop Betſey, for Salem, with Corn, and Pork.
Brig Black Prince, for Antigua, with Corn, Bread, Pork, Flour, Fiſh, Scantling, and Shingles.
Brig Venus, for Liverpool, with Tar, Turpentine, Flour, Fiſh, Wheat, and Staves.
Schooner Richmond Packet, for Piſcataqua, with Corn, Pork, Pitch, Turpentine, and Tobacco.
Brig George and Charlotte, for New-York, with Tar, Peaſe, and Barrel Staves.
Schooner St. Andrew, for New-York, with Hemp, Wheat, Peaſe, Corn, Hams, and Dear's Skins.
Sloop Cedar, for Philadelphia, with Wheat, Fiſh, and Turpentine.
Schooner Dolphin, for Jamaica, with Flour.
Schooner Mary, for Antigua, with Corn, Pork, Shingles, and Staves.
Betſey and Jenny, for Antigua, with Corn, Bread, Flour, Hams, Pork, Beans, Lard, Soap, Staves, and Shingles.
Brig John, for Jamaica, with Flour, Scantling, Plank, Shingles, and Staves.
Sloop Phenix, for Barbadoes, with Corn, Peaſe, Pork, Hams, Lard, Plank, and Shingles.
Sloop Betſey, for Grenades, with Corn, Peaſe, pork, Flour, bread, and Oats.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Subſcriber has juſt Imported in the Ship MARY and JANE, Capt. CHAPMAN from LONDON;

AN Aſſortment of DRUGS and MEDICINES, to be ſold at his Shop in NORFOLK, by Whole Sale and Retail, at a low Advance, for Ready Money.

He begs thoſe that have accounts with him to ſettle, and give their bond with ſecurity, payable at any reaſonable time hence, juſt as may beſt ſuit their own Convenience; and ſuch as he is indebted to, he deſires they would call upon him for immediate payment.

ALEXANDER GORDON.

Norfolk, Auguſt 8th, 1774. 3

FOR SALE,

A Well accuſtomed GRISTMILL on APPOMATOX River, formerly the property of ERASMUS HARDING about twelve miles from Peterſburg; its ſituation is very public, the ſtream never failing; and being in the heart of a fine wheat country, is particularly well calculated for a merchant mill.——For terms,

Apply to VIVION BROOKING.

AMELIA, Auguſt 1ſt, 1774. 3

Norfolk, Auguſt 1ſt. 1774.

TO BE SOLD.

On THURSDAY, the 18th, Inſtant.

THE Effects belonging to the deceaſed, Doctor COLIN CAMPBELL, among which are a valuable collection of Medical Books, Surgical Inſtruments, and a compleat Electrical Machine. A Catalogue of the Books may be ſeen at Mr. DUNCAN's Printing Office here, and at Meſſrs. PURDIE and DIXON's, in WILLIAMSBURG.

THE Subſcriber intends to go to the Northward, and to return in a few Weeks,

JAMES INGRAM.

Norfolk, July 25th, 1774.

WANTED

For ELIZABETH River Pariſh,

A CLERK.

AS the emoluments ariſing ftom ſaid Pariſh are very conſiderable, none need apply, unleſs he produces a recommendation of his good moral Character, who can read tolerably, and perform Pſalmody well.

THOMAS DAVIS, Miniſter.

Norfolk, July 30th, 1774.

PAINTING, CARVING, and GILDING, of SHIPPING in the LONDON TASTE, executed in the neateſt Manner by the Subſcriber:

SUCH as Ships Heads, Taffarells, quarter-pieces and Badges.——Gentlemen who are pleaſed to favour him with their Commands, may depend on the greateſt Punctuality and Diſpatch.——All ſorts of ornamental Embelliſhments in Painting, will be done in the moſt approved Taſte.

Colonel VEAL's Wharf, Portſmouth, July 27, 1774. } THOMAS MASON, from London.

TO BE SOLD

One Hundred and twenty or thirty Acres of Woodland, Land; having the Convenience of good Landings at high or low Water, part of the Tract is poſſeſſed by the Subſcriber, who will give twelve Months Credit for one half of the Sum, upon Bond, with approved Security.

JOHN MALCOLM HERBERT.

RUN AWAY from the Subſcriber living at Norfolk.

A Dark colour'd mulatto man, who goes by the name of TONEY; about twenty eighth years of age, born at Piquimons, and ſold there at public ſale, and purchaſed by Samuel Smith, living about two miles from the Great Bridge, has taken and carried away a light coloured ſerge coat half wore, a white linen jacket without buttons, a pair of Ruſſia duck breeches, the property of his maſter; likewiſe an old felt hat paired very ſmall round the edges; he has got a wen upon the fore-part of his forehead, and another upon one of his wriſts; alſo a ſore upon his right ſhin about the breadth of a dollar.

N. B. Whoever apprehends and ſecures the ſaid mulatto, ſo that his maſter may get him again ſhall receive FIVE POUNDS Reward.

PATRICK ROBERTSON.

Norfolk, April 25, 1774. 3

FIFTY POUNDS REWARD.

WHEREAS on the 19th of June laſt paſt, a certain JOSEPH THORP was entruſted with a conſiderable ſum in Half Johannes, of nine penny weight, to be delivered by him at QUEBEC; and as he has not yet made his appearance there, with other ſuſpicious circumſtances, it is apprehended he is gone off with the money. He is a native of ENGLAND, about ſix feet high, ſwarthy complexion, very dark keen eyes, and pitted with the ſmall pox; of a ſlender make, ſtoops as he walks, talks rather ſlow, with ſome ſmall impediment in his ſpeech. He lived ſome time in BOSTON, from whence he removed to QUEBEC, aſſuming the character of a merchant in both places; he was alſo once in trade in NEW-CASTLE, VIRGINIA, and has a brother ſettled there. It is believed he went on board Captain JOHN F. PRUYM, for ALBANY, and took with him a blue caſimir, and a dark brown cloth ſuit of cloaths.

Whoever ſecures the ſaid JOSEPH THORP in any of his Majeſty's gaols on this continent, ſhall be entitled to ten per cent. on the ſum recovered, and the above reward of Fifty Pounds when convicted. Apply to CURSON and SETON of NEW-YORK; JOSEPH WHARTON, junr. of Philadelphia; ROBERT CHRISTIE, of Baltimore; JAMES GIBSON, and Co. Virginia; JOHN BONDFIELD of Quebec; MELATIAH BOURNE, or JOHN ROWE of Boſton. It is requeſted of thoſe who may have ſeen this JOSEPH THORP, ſince the 19th of June laſt paſt, or know any thing of the rout he has taken, that they convey the moſt early intelligence thereof to any of the above perſons; or GREENWOOD, RITSON, & MARSH, in Norfolk; the Favor will be gratefully acknowledged.

*** All Maſters of veſſels are forewarned from taking him off the Continent.

THE Subſcriber has lately opened Store at Peterſburg, where he has for Sale, Weſt India and other Articles, and would be glad to execute any Orders upon Commiſſion.——Any Letters from Norfolk or Portſmouth, will be forwarded by Mr. WILLIAM DAVIES, at Norfolk.

SAMUEL DAVIES.

Auguſt 9th, 1774. 4

TWENTY SHILLINGS REWARD.

RUN away, from the ſubſcriber, on Sunday laſt, an apprentice boy, named Thomas Northcott, about nineteen or twenty years of age, has carried with him all his cloaths: He is about five feet nine inches high, ſlim made, was born on the Weſtern Branch, Norfolk county. All perſons are hereby warned againſt harbouring ſaid apprentice, and maſters and commanders of veſſels, from carrying him off the country: Whoever brings ſaid apprentice to the ſubſcriber, ſhall receive the above Reward; and if ſecured (ſo as I may have him again) Twelve Shillings,

JAMES WALKER.

Norfolk, July 27, 1774. c t f

PORTSMOUTH, June, 25, 1774.

A PURSE of 100 GUINEAS to be run for by any Horſe, Mare, or Gelding, over the Two Mile Courſe at this Place, the beſt two Heats in three, on Tueſday the 20th of September, carrying Weight for Age, agreeable to the Articles of the ſaid Purſe, which are to be ſeen in the Hands of Mr. RICHARD NESTER Merchant there, with whom all Horſes ſtarting for ſaid Purſe are to be entered, the Day before the Race at fartheſt. The Money to be paid to the Winner immediately after the Race.——It is alſo propoſed to have two more Races, one on the Wedneſday following, for 50 l. the other on Thurſday, for 30 l. which will be advertiſed particularly, as ſoon as the Subſcriptions are full.

CASPER HERRETER,

LEATHER Dreſſer and Breetches Maker, in the Borough of Norfolk, lives at the ſign of the Buck and Breetches, in Church-Street, and carries on theſe trades in all their branches; thoſe who are pleaſed to favour him with their cuſtom, may depend on having their work done in the neateſt and beſt manner, with the utmoſt diſpatch. He returns his ſincere thanks to his cuſtomers, and hopes for a continuance of their favours as well as of the public in general, which ſhall be his conſtant ſtudy to merit. He has now by him a large quantity of good Skins and Breetches ready made; alſo a large quantity of Philadelphia made Breetches neatly finiſhed, which he will ſell cheap for Ready Money.

N. B. A quantity of new and old work has been left with me upwards of twelve months; the owners are deſired to come and take them away and pay for the ſame; otherwiſe I ſhall diſpoſe of them at public ſale to defray charges, according to law; in three months from the date hereof.——Orders from the country will be duly anſwered, and punctually executed.

C. H.

JUST IMPORTED from LONDON.

AN Aſſortment of Goods proper for the Seaſon; which will be ſold Cheap for Ready Money, at the Weſt Corner Store next the Market Place by

t f b LEWIS HANSFORD.

To be ſold to the higheſt Bidder, at Norfolk-County, Court-Houſe, on Thurſday the 18th, of Auguſt being Court day, by virtue of a deed in truſt from Samuel Breſſie to the ſubſcribers.

A VALUABLE tract of Land lying in the aforeſaid county, and pariſh of St. Brides, conveniently ſituated, containing, Five hundred and thirty ſeven acres, by an old ſurvey; on which is a very good brick dwelling-houſe, forty eight feet by twenty, Kitchen, Barn, and Smoke-houſe all in good repair; a fine young Orchard of about five hundred trees, chiefly of the Hews's crab, and cleared land for working ſix or eight hands. The ſoil of this land is exceeding good and all of it lies convenient for improvement alſo one other tract of land, lying in the aforeſaid county and pariſh; containing two hundred acres, (about forty of which are cleared) with a ſmall houſe thereon. The above tracts ly within eight miles of the Great-Bridge, and will be ſhewn on application by the ſubſcribers, or by William Hall who now rents the firſt plantation, and by Nathaniel Butt who lives adjoining to the other. Credit will be given till the Ninth day of October next, on giving bond, with approved ſecurity to

JOHN WILSON.
HENRY BRESSIE.

PORTSMOUTH, July 16, 1774.

THE Subſcriber has opened Shop for ſome time, at the Corner Houſe, where Mr. FRANCIS MILLER formerly lived And continues to make and ſell, all Sorts of SHOES and BOOTS of the beſt Stuff, and finiſhed in the genteeleſt Manner.——Ladies or Gentlemen who ſhall be kind enough to Favour him with their Commands, may depend on Punctuality and Expedition. Wholeſale Orders, will be fulfilled with the greateſt Diligence.

JOHN MUIRHEAD.

N. B. I propoſe to take in Boarders or private Lodgers, upon very reaſonable Terms.

LATELY IMPORTED.

From LONDON.

A Variety of the laſt publiſhed Books, Pamphlets, Poems and Plays; Alſo a neat Aſſortment of Stationary Wares, as Paper of all Sorts, Dutch Quills, Wax and Wafers, fine Aſſes Skin memorandum Books, Pocket Books, Letter-Caſes, Morroco Etwees with Inſtruments, Maps, black and red Ink-Powder, Pencils, Standiſhes, of the neateſt Conſtruction; Sea Books, blank Forms of Seamen's Articles, Policies of Inſurance, Bills of Lading, Indentures, Bonds of different Kinds, Bills of Exchange, Deeds of Leaſe and Releaſe, Prices Current, Ink Glaſſes of different Shapes, Laycock's approved Leather Ink Pots, &c. &c. &c. To be Sold at the Printing Office by WILLIAM DUNCAN & Co.

N B. Orders for Blank Books plain or ruled, bound in any Size, Form, or Taſte, will be finiſhed with Expedition, and Care taken that they be duly forwarded.

*** Printing Work done in all its Branches at moderate Prices.

JOURNEYMEN Weavers well recommended, will meet with good Encouragement by applying to the Subſcriber. Two are particularly wanted to work on one Loom Counterpanes 10 quarters broad.

GARDINER FLEMING.

N. B. He will give Eighteen pence per pound for clean pickt Cotton.

Norfolk, 6th July, 1774.

For CHARTER to any Part of EUROPE;

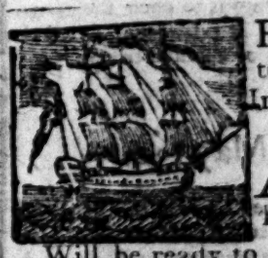
The SHIP ANNA,

THOMAS WILSON Maſter,

BURTHEN about FIVE HUNDRED and TWENTY Hhds. or FOURTEEN THOUSAND Buſhels.

For Terms, Apply to JOHN WALKER.

NORFOLK, July 14, 1774. c t b



FOR CHARTER to any part of Europe, or the Weſt Indies.

A NEW Veſſel, now on the Stocks, burthen about 350 Hhds. or nine Thouſand buſhels.

Will be ready to take on board, by the 20th of next month. For Terms apply to

ROGER STEWART.

PORTSMOUTH, July 21, 1774. t b c.

Norfolk, July 12, 1774.

WANTED

AN Overſeer, who underſtands FARMING on a ſmall Plantation near the Cape; by applying to the Subſcriber will meet with Encouragement.

ROBERT GILMOUR

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